

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-10 AID-05 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 EB-07 COME-00

TRSE-00 OMB-01 DOTE-00 /059 W

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R 100855Z OCT 75

FM AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3943

INFO AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USMISSION USUN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LOURENCO MARQUES 1098

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, ETRD, EMIN, CA, MZ, ZI

SUBJECT: UN CONTRACTS CANADIANS TO ASSIST MOZAMBIQUE
TRANSPORTATION

REF: LUSAKA 1643

1. UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE U.N. A TEAM OF CANADIAN TRANSPORTATION EXPERTS ARRIVED IN MOZAMBIQUE IN LATE SEPTEMBER TO CARRY OUT A STUDY OF THE NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION NETWORK. THE EIGHT MEMBERS ARE CANADIAN PACIFIC CONSULTANTS IN VARIOUS FIELDS INCLUDING PORTS, RAILWAYS, AIRLINES, AND SYSTEMS ANALYSIS. SOME OF THE EIGHT WILL STAY UNTIL MID-DECEMBER.

2. THIS PROJECT WAS AGREED TO BY THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT BEFORE INDEPENDENCE; THE GPRM, AFTER
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SOME HESITATION, DECIDED TO GO AHEAD WITH IT AND SIGNED THE

AGREEMENT. BASICALLY, THE TEAM'S MANDATE IS TO MAKE A THOROUGH STUDY OF ALL ASPECTS OF THE TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM IN MOZAMBIQUE AND COME UP WITH RECOMMENDATIONS. ACCORDING TO ONE OF THE CONSULTANTS, THE THREE-MONTH STAY IS NOT SUFFICIENT TO ALLOW THEM TO OVERSEE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS.

3. ONE TEAM MEMBER, HENRY BENETAR, HAS BEEN ASKED TO DESIGN A RECEIVING AND TRANSFER FACILITY FOR ZAMBIAN COPPER ORE IN MOATIZE. BENTAR SAYS ZAMBIA AND MOZAMBIQUE HAVE AGREED ON THE SCHEME TO TRUCK THE ORE AS FAR AS MOATIZE, TRANSFER IT TO RAILWAY CARS, AND SEND IT FOR EXPORT THROUGH BEIRA. ACCORDINGLY, A NETWORK OF GAS STATIONS AND REST STOPS WILL BE CONSTRUCTED ALONG THE ROUTE BETWEEN THE ZAMBIAN MINES AND MOATIZE. EACH TRUCK WILL CARRY FIVE TONS OF ORE AND DRIVERS WILL BE LIMITED TO EIGHT-HOUR SHIFTS.

COMMENT: THERE IS A CERTAIN SPIN-OFF IN HAVING CANADIANS HERE. THEY ARE REFERRED TO BY MOST MOZAMBICANS AS THE "NORTH-AMERICANS". FIRST IMPRESSIONS ARE THAT THE TEAM IS MADE UP OF TALENTED, EXPERIENCED EXPERTS WHO HAVE GAINED EXPERTISE ON CONSULTING JOBS ALL OVER THE WORLD. ASSUMING THEY DO A GOOD JOB, THE GPRM COULD DECIDE THAT OTHER "NORTH AMERICAN" KNOW-HOW COULD PLAY A HELPFUL ROLE IN MOZAMBIQUE. (UNLIKE OTHER UN ASSISTANCE PROJECTS THIS ONE HAS GONE UNREPORTED IN THE LOCAL MEDIA.)

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